A rapid appraisal of the public health risks posed through interaction between humans/domestic animals with wildlife and wildlife-related activities - a pilot project

Goal

To identify and assess the public health risks posed through human/domestic animal interaction with wildlife and wildlife-related activities.

Background

- Communities exist whose health is affected directly and indirectly by wildlife and wildliferelated activities.
- Interactions between humans, their domestic animals and wildlife result in the transmission of infectious disease and the prevalence of noninfectious disease.
- Wildlife-related activities such as parks, tourism and hunting could also impact upon health.
- These interactions pose public health risks and benefits.
- Identifying and assessing these risks would be beneficial to both health officials, as well as to wildlife managers.

Objectives

- To create a tool to conduct a public health risks assessment in this context.
- To collect, collate and assess data from communities in this context using the tool created.
- To evaluate the tool used and decide on the appropriateness of the assessment and adjust the tool as seen necessary.
- To distribute the appraisal to relevant stakeholders and data sources.

Methods

- Key informant interviews: Qualitative, indepth and semi-structured interviews with individuals selected for their knowledge of issues regarding wildlife, livestock and human health in their area.
- Focus groups: Participatory methods for qualitative data collection from community groups (e.g. women and youth)
- Quantitative data collection: data collection from health centre records.

Content

- Determinants of health: factors that have an influence on disease.
- Grouped into personal attributes, ecosystem goods and services, infrastructure, livelihoods and social economic status, society and lifestyle, and services and policy.

Determinants of health

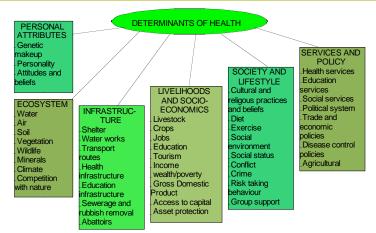


Figure 1. Determinants of Health

Content

Disease:

- infectious agents (human, zoonotic, EIDS and non-zoonotic wildlife and domestic animal) and
- non-infectious causes of disease (trauma/conflict, nutrition related disease, mental and addiction related and toxicoses).

Infectious Disease

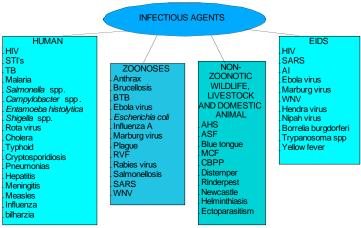


Figure 2. Relevant Infectious Diseases. For abbreviations see list of abbreviations pg ii

Team

- Health worker/medic,
- Animal health worker/veterinarian
- Social scientist.

Non-infectious disease

NON-INFECTIOUS DISEASE TRAUMA/CONFLICT NUTRITION TOXICOSES •Wildlife related Plant to vins DISEASES RELATED DISEASES •Snake scomio •Conservation area and spider maln utrition related conflict venom disease •Vitamin A •Fluoride from deficiency Alcoholism •Zinc deficiency •Ischaemic heart •Mycotoxicoses disease •lron deficiency Smoke from •Tobacco related •Obesity house fires diseases •Diabetes •Industrial or toxins: zinc, lead, mercury, pesticides, fertilizers and